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Minor Notices

THE GRAVE OF DAVID ELKINS

It is not generally known that Rev. David Elkins, who preached the funeral of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, mother of Abraham Lincoln, is buried in a little country graveyard a few miles west of Mitchell, Ind. Such, however, is true history; and peeping out from among the accumulation of weeds and grass today may be seen in that little neglected country graveyard a modest little gravestone, only fifteen inches high, bearing the inscription "David Elkins, 2 S. C. Mil. War 1812."

The Lincoln family moved from Kentucky to Spencer county, Indiana, in 1816. Lincoln was then about 8 years old; about a year later the mother died. In those days it was not always possible to have a preacher in the neighborhood at the time of death and the memorial, or funeral sermons were often preached at some convenient time after the death. A few months after his mother's death he wrote to a Baptist preacher by the name of David Elkins, who was a neighbor of the Lincolns in Kentucky, and asked him to their home to preach his mother's funeral. Some months later Elkins concluded to comply with the request of the lad and in 1818 set out on horseback for the home of the Lincolns, almost 100 miles away.

Young Lincoln at the same time started to visit Reverend Elkins with a view to inducing him to come to Indiana and pay the tribute of respect that he felt was due the memory of his mother. Somewhere on the road the two met and Elkins returned with Lincoln and preached the funeral at the Lincoln home, which is near Lincoln City in Spencer county.

Elkins, who was a soldier in the war of 1812 moved to a farm about four miles northwest of Mitchell some time in the forties. He died in 1857 and is buried in the little cemetery above mentioned. It is remembered that Elkins often spoke of the 10-year-old lad who was so devoted to his mother. David Elkins is well remembered by a few people still living here. They are Judge W. H. Edwards, Henry J. Tirey, Thomas Tow and Aunt Phoebe Burton.—*The Mitchell Tribune*, Oct. 21, 1915.

KIL-SO-QUAH, THE LAST OF THE MIAMIS, 1810-1915

KIL-SO-QUAH, the grand-daughter of Little Turtle, whom J. P. Dunn in his *True Indian Stories* characterized as the greatest Indian the world has known, was born in 1810 at Miami Park, one mile west of Huntington. Her death occurred Sept. 4, 1915, age 105 years. There is sufficient evidence to satisfy historians as to the accuracy of the year of her birth. She was the daughter of Little Turtle's son, Wok-shin-gah (the Crescent moon) and Nah-wa-kah-mo-kwa (the Snow Woman). The aged princess had translated her own name, which historians spell Kil-so-quah, as "The Setting Sun."

Her first husband was John Owl, who died soon after the marriage. She then married Antoine Revarre, a French-Canadian, and of the six children born to them two have survived her. Although born west of Huntington, Ind., Kil-so-quah lived practically all her life in Jackson township, one mile southeast of Roanoke, Ind. Wok-shin-gah owned a full section of land, which dwindled to the forty acres on which stands the little frame house that was the daughter's home, and where her son Anthony now lives. Anthony's Indian name is Wah-pi-mon-gwah (White Loon) and he is known to the Indians as Little White Loon to distinguish him from his uncle, White Loon, who died at the age of 110 years.

Two children survive. They are the above mentioned Anthony Revarre, who has cared for her for years and proven a true and worthy son in her fading days, and Mary Johnson of Oklahoma. The daughter, who left home some thirty years ago, was never heard of and thought to be dead by Kil-so-quah, until about two years ago (1913) through the efforts of Dr. S. Koontz of Roanoke, who had enlisted the aid of the federal pension department, she was found located in Oklahoma, the widow of a wealthy land-owner. The daughter visited with her mother soon after the facts of their relation were established and up to the time of Kil-so-quah's death she divided her time between her mother and her far western home.

In 1899 the little log cabin that was home to Kil-so-quah and Little White Loon burned to the ground. Many relics and curios of the Miamis and of the family were destroyed, some of them of great value to museums and collectors. Most prized by Kil-so-quah of the property saved were a little shirt and a pair of moccasins which her son had worn nearly sixty years before.

Kil-so-quah was of national prominence in all affairs relating to the American Indians. To make her the most interesting individual of the few survivors of the "royal" families of the vanishing race she had retained her native language and to a large extent the customs of the Indians through years of contact with none of her race but her son Anthony. She learned perhaps fewer than a score of English words, among them "rheumatism" was most frequently used. For years she had been afflicted by rheumatism and her association of the word with her painful ailment made it one of the few she could comprehend. Gout and rheumatism caused the death of her illustrious grandfather on July 14, 1812, at Fort Wayne.

Until rheumatism made her an invalid, no old settlers' meeting or like event was complete in this county without her presence. Seated on a platform she would smilingly receive the attention of curious crowds, not understanding the cause of her prominence, but being gratified by it. As an invalid, she was as pathetic a figure as history reveals. Practically ostracised by her lack of English, she alternated between an armchair and her bed. Hours, days and weeks she spent sewing diamond-shaped patches into star-shaped figures of great quilts. The writer has often found her sewing away at these when she could hardly see her hand a foot away from her eyes or know that I was in the room except through my conversation with Anthony. My father and I once gave her a fifty-cent piece for one of her patches and she sat for a long time, fondling it in her hands and laughing in a queer chuckle. She had cured my father of snake bite when he was a small boy and on the occasion of one of our visits Anthony asked her if she remembered it. After thinking a little she began to laugh and in her Indian tongue told Anthony she remembered well and even so distinctly as to tell whose son my father was.

During the last part of her life even the solace of work was taken from her by her near total failing of vision. All this she accepted, stolidly, uncomplainingly. Her own remark, translated by an interpreter, tells of her plight more clearly than all that has been written:

"When I am busy I think of my work; when I am idle I think how poor and alone I am."

None of the stimulating excitement and romance with which Cooper surrounded Uncas and his father in *The Last of the Mohicans* relieved her uneventful life. Last of the pure blooded

Miamis and descended of a long line of chieftains, she stoically dragged out the years in which a remarkable vitality kept life in her body.

Kil-so-quah held to the customs of her tribe and lived outdoors in her wigwam during the warm months until about ten years ago, when the tent fell into pieces from wear. She delighted in relating her early adventures and especially one soon after her marriage. Upon hearing the hounds she picked up a small hatchet and made her way to where the dogs had a large deer at bay, and from behind a tree she killed the deer with a blow of the hatchet. She said that the hunters toted the game away without offering her a mess of venison.

She had also presented a great many with curios, among which is a miniature canoe she made for Dr. Koontz in 1910 in appreciation of tobacco he had taken her.

About six years ago Dr. Koontz, William Koontz, James Barbour and Dr. Reed took up the bones of Kil-so-quah's husband and Chief Coesse, who were buried about sixty-three years ago. The bones of the former were preserved and kept at the office of Dr. Koontz and were interred with the remains of Kil-so-quah upon her summons to the happy hunting grounds.

The last public meeting Kil-so-quah attended in Roanoke was in 1910 on her one hundredth birthday anniversary, although as late as last year (1914) she attended the Old Settlers' Meeting at Columbia City. Last fall a reunion was held at the old homestead of all the Indians in the northern part of the State and about forty-five were present. A war dance was enjoyed and music furnished by Kil-so-quah with an old pan and stick.

Her death occurred Saturday morning at 3 o'clock, September 4, 1915. Her body was held in state at the Roanoke Catholic Church for one week when she was buried in the I. O. O. F. cemetery, the order of Red Men acting as pall-bearers. With the passing of Kil-so-quah to the happy hunting grounds there was lost the last of the full-blooded Miamis and perhaps the oldest resident of the State of Indiana. A subscription is being raised to purchase a historical monument to mark the place of burial.—ANSEL A. RICHARDS, '16, Indiana University.

OUIATENON

(The following note was furnished Hon. A. O. Reser, State Senator, from Tippecanoe county) :

THE following was copied by Mr. Robert Hatcher, of Lafayette, from a journal of a Jesuit Priest, in the French archives at Paris :

"Ft. Ouiatenon is situated about 15 miles below Keth Tippekenunck, an old Indian village where the Tippecanoe flows into the Ouabache. It is situated on the north bank of the River Ouabache, about seventy yards from the margin thereof, at the foot of the rapids, and at the mouth of 'La riviere du bois rouge.'"

With this description it has been an easy matter to locate the site of Ouiatenon, on a knoll, four miles below Lafayette. Numerous relics have been dug out of this knoll. Among them are Jesuit crosses, pieces of flint, an old musket, an old iron door, and a canoe carved out of Wa-hoo wood, with a metal tip. Buttons, pieces of cloth, flint, a gun lock, a crucifix and silver cross, found at a point near the knoll but further back from the river, indicate a Jesuit burial ground and it is known that at old Ft. Ouiatenon both the French and the Indians used a part of the elevation upon which it was situated for a burial ground.

Ouiatenon was the first fort established on the Wabash river. It was built in the year 1719 or 1720, ostensibly to counteract the influence of the English, and to keep the Indians in their power. After the battle of Quebec a treaty was made in which it was agreed that France should withdraw her garrisons from the posts on the Mississippi and its tributaries. Ouiatenon then ceased to be a French fort and passed into the hands of the English.

FRANK B. POSEY

FRANK B. POSEY, lawyer, former congressman and for the last twenty-five years one of the most prominent Republicans in the First District, died at his home at Rockport, Ind., Sunday afternoon, Oct. 31.

Mr. Posey was born at Petersburg, Ind., sixty-seven years ago, being the son of one of the pioneers of Pike county. He was a lineal descendant of Thomas Posey, who was the first territorial governor of Indiana. The Posey family for years has been one of the most prominent and best known in Pike county.

Mr. Posey was educated in the Petersburg public schools and afterwards attended DePauw University at Greencastle, Ind., and the State University at Bloomington, Ind. He studied law and opened an office at Petersburg. From the start he was successful and during his long residence at Petersburg he figured in some of the most noted civil and criminal cases in the Pike county circuit court. His ability as an orator brought him a reputation both as a lawyer and a political speaker.

More than twenty years ago Mr. Posey moved to Evansville, where he formed a law partnership with Judge Hamilton A. Mattison. Later DeWitt Q. Chappell was taken into the firm, and the firm was known as Posey, Mattison & Chappell. Later Judge Mattison retired from the firm. When Mr. Posey was appointed surveyor of the port of Evansville, about ten years ago, he gave up the law practice and devoted all his time to the office. He retired from the surveyor of port's office about two years ago and soon after his retirement he moved to Rockport, where he formed a partnership with Fred A. Heuring, and his son John, the firm being known as Posey, Heuring & Posey.

Few Republicans in southern Indiana were better known than Colonel Posey. In 1888 he was nominated by his party for Congress in the First District and went down in defeat, his opponent that year having been Judge William F. Parrett, of Evansville. In that year General Alvin P. Hovey, who was serving in Congress, was elected governor of the State. This left a vacancy in Congress when General Hovey became governor in January, 1899, and a special election was called.

Mr. Posey and Judge Parrett were the opposing candidates in the special election and Mr. Posey was elected by about 1,300 majority. In 1910 Mr. Posey was again the nominee of his party for Congress and was defeated by John W. Boehne, of Evansville. This was the last race for office he ever made.

When Albert J. Beveridge was first elected to the United States Senate, in 1897, Colonel Posey was a candidate before the Republican caucus and was voted on for several ballots. In 1900 he sought the Republican nomination for governor, and received a large vote from the southern and central parts of the State. W. T. Durbin, of Anderson, finally won the nomination.

Mr. Posey for many years was vice-president from Indiana in the Ohio Valley Improvement Association, which organization has

as its object the improvement of the Ohio river with a movable system of locks and dams.

When he moved to Rockport two years ago, Mr. Posey selected one of the highest spots on the "bluff," where he might get a good look of the Ohio river, day after day and month after month. He loved the river, and he longed to see the time when steamboats would ply the streams in large numbers as of old, and this he believed would come with the improvement of the river.

When Mr. Posey went to Congress in January, 1899, to fill out the unexpired term of General Hovey, he was the central figure in what proved to be a noted contest. In the election in the fall of 1888 he had been defeated by Judge Parrett by less than thirty votes.

JOHN H. BAKER

JOHN H. BAKER, of Goshen, retired judge of the United States district court for Indiana, died at his home here Oct. 21. He was born in Monroe county New York, February 28, 1832. When a baby his parents moved to what is now Fulton county, Ohio, but which was then on the frontier. When a boy he helped his father on a farm. He was educated in the primitive schools of the pioneer days and then became a school teacher and out of his pay saved sufficient money to enable him, at the age of twenty-one, to take a course of two years' study in the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, Ohio. When this preparation was complete he began the study of law at Adrian, Mich., and passing an examination before the Supreme Court of Michigan, was admitted to the bar in 1857. In that year he came to Goshen and opened a law office.

In the troublous days before the civil war he joined the new born Republican party and in 1862 was nominated and elected as a member of the State senate. He held a notary public's commission, however, and by the construction of the Democratic majority in the senate a notary public was declared the incumbent of a lucrative office and Senator Baker was accordingly ousted from the body. After a brief legislative experience he returned to Goshen to practice law.

In 1872 he aspired to the Republican nomination for congressman from the Thirteenth District, but through a combination on the part of three opposing candidates, he was defeated in the convention. Two years later he was successful in becoming the nomi-

nee. At the election he won by a small margin, the Democrats sweeping the State. He was renominated in 1876 and was re-elected by more than 2,000 majority, and in 1878 he was elected a third time with an increased majority. At the completion of his third term he declined another nomination and returned to Goshen to resume his law practice.

When James A. Garfield became President he tendered Mr. Baker the place of second assistant postmaster-general, an office for which he was peculiarly well fitted because of his experience while in Congress in investigating the "star route" contracts. However, he declined to give up the law for the appointment.

It was in 1892 that Judge William A. Woods, of Goshen and Indianapolis, was promoted to the United States circuit bench from the United States district court, and to fill the vacancy President Harrison appointed Mr. Baker, who assumed his duties March 29, 1892, and served with distinction until 1902, when he retired under the age limit provision.

At the time President Harrison appointed him, the salary was \$5,000 a year. Subsequently it was increased to \$6,000 a year, which amount Judge Baker drew up to the time of his death, the law providing that full salary shall continue in force following retirement under the age limit, the appointment having been for life.

In early manhood Mr. Baker married Miss Harriet E. DeFrees, daughter of Joseph H. DeFrees, of Goshen. Judge Francis E. Baker is the only child.

SIDNEY K. GANIARD

SIDNEY K. GANIARD, former state senator from Lagrange and Noble counties, died of Bright's disease November 3, after an illness of several months.

Mr. Ganiard was born on a farm near Howe, Lagrange county, September 22, 1870. He was graduated from the Lima high school in 1890, after which he taught in the country schools for a few years. Then he entered Indiana University where he completed a literary and law course. He was principal of the Lima high school for four years and of the high school of Monroeville, Ind., for two years. Then he quit teaching and took up the practice of law in Lagrange.

In 1904 Mr. Ganiard was elected to the state senate to represent the Noble-Lagrange District, and was a conspicuous member of the

Republican majority in the sessions of 1905 and 1907. He was author of the "blind tiger" law and of the present banking law of the State. He was elected prosecuting attorney for the Thirty-fourth Judicial Circuit, comprising the counties of Lagrange and Elkhart, in 1910.

JAMES E. CASKEY

THE owner and editor of the *Greensburg News*, James E. Caskey, died at his home in Greensburg, October 24. He was born May 12, 1853, at Richland, Rush county. He has lived in Greensburg since he was 14 years old. After serving as township trustee, and postmaster he purchased the *News*, December 1, 1902. He is best known as the editor of the *News*, being favorably known throughout the State.

ROY L. SHATTUCK

ROY L. SHATTUCK died at his home in Brazil, August 15, 1915. He was born in Brazil in 1871, being 44 years old at the time of his death. He was a lawyer by profession. He served as mayor of Brazil from 1903 to 1909. In 1912 he was defeated for the Republican nomination for congressman. In 1914 he was nominated but defeated at the polls.

RICHARD M. MILBURN

MR. MILBURN was born on a farm in Dubois county, September 24, 1865. His parents went to Dubois county from Kentucky many years ago. He was the eldest of three children, the other two being James S. Milburn, now living at East St. Louis, and Mrs. Hattie J. Beck, of Chicago. Mr. Milburn attended the public schools of Dubois county until he was 16 years old, and then studied two years at the State Normal School. Later he was graduated from the scientific course at the Southern Indiana Normal College, at Mitchell; the law department of Cumberland University, Lebanon, Tenn., and the literary department of Indiana University. He was superintendent of the public schools of Jasper in 1887, and from that time he was engaged in the practice of law at Jasper, until he came to this city to assume office as attorney-general, with the exception of two years that he spent as associate professor of law at Indiana University. He was elected state senator from Dubois and

Daviess counties, and served in the legislative sessions of 1903 and 1905.

He was a member of the Trinity Presbyterian Church at Jasper, in which he taught the Bible class for many years. He was also a member of the Masons, the Knights of Pythias and the Elks.

Mr. Milburn was married to Miss Lizzie Fowler, in Dubois county, in 1887, and to them five children were born, all of whom together with the widow, survive.

He was prominently connected with the Democratic party of the State. He was nominated and elected attorney-general by the Democrats at the last election. He had served less than one year at the time of his death at Indianapolis, November 9, 1915.

MEETING OF HISTORY TEACHERS

THE HISTORY SECTION of the State Teachers' Association held meetings at Indianapolis on the forenoons of October 28 and 29. At the first session the papers were grouped around the present condition of Europe. Prof. L. H. Gipson, of Wabash, read a paper on "The Underlying Causes for the Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente." Howard V. Hornung, of the Clinton High School, read a paper on "History and International Relationships." P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, discussed the topic, "Teaching History in Preparation for Citizenship." L. J. Bailey, Librarian of Gary, read a paper on "The Founding of Gary."

At the second session Prof. W. O. Lynch read a paper on "Indiana in the Middle Period." Logan Esarey followed with a paper on "Sources of Indiana History," and Prof. James A. Woodburn closed this part of the program with an explanation of the State Historical Commission and its plans for the centennial celebration. The latter paper is given in full elsewhere in this magazine. Others will perhaps appear later. Prof. C. B. Coleman presided over the meeting.

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